Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 24 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Friday 25 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Thursday 24 Dec 2020 at 02:03 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Generally High. Moderate by Monday with the main uncertainties the wind strength.

Headline for Thursday 24 Dec 2020: Bitterly cold with strong winds, gradually easing. Snow showers in the north during the morning.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 24 Dec 2020

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Light snow showers	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
20%	20%	30%	10%	10%	10%

Forecast for Thursday 24 Dec 2020

Weather: Occasional snow showers through the rest of the night and the morning, mainly across western and northern ranges, but likely dry with sunny spells south of Torridon and towards Ben Wyvis. Showers in the north isolated in the afternoon, dry for most. Cloud thickens from the west towards midnight.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 70%, broken cloud with bases often near the higher summits, occasionally lowering to around 600m in passing showers, mostly across Assynt and far northwest.

Visibility: Generally very good or excellent. Occasionally poor on the tops in lowering cloud, and in any early snow showers

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Forecast for Thursday 24 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	33/38 N	27/32 N	20/26 N	15/20 NW	13/17 NW	12/16 W	14/18 SW
900	29/34 N	24/29 N	19/24 N	14/19 NW	11/15 NW	12/15 W	13/17 SW
600	20/25 N	14/19 N	12/18 N	9/14 NW	7/11 NW	6/10 W	9/14 SW
300	4/27 N	2/22 N	3/18 N	2/15 NW	1/12 NW	2/11 W	2/13 SW
Glen	10/25 N	3/14 N	4/12 N	7/17 N	6/12 N	3/6 NW	2/6 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-6/-16	-5/-14	-4/-12	-4/-11	-4/-10	-4/-9	-4/-10
900	-5/-14	-4/-13	-4/-11	-4/-10	-4/-9	-3/-8	-3/-9
600	-2/-10	-2/-8	-1/-7	-1/-6	-1/-5	-1/-4	-1/-5
300	-0/-3	-0/-2	1/-1	0/-1	0/-1	0/-2	0/-2
Glen	2/-2	2/1	3/2	3/1	3/1	2/1	3/2
Freezing Level*	200m	200m	300m	300m	300m	300m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Bitterly cold in the wind, especially early morning.

Forecast for Friday 25 Dec 2020

Weather: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, snow above 900m, through the early hours, most persistent near the west coast. This turns patchy after dawn, eastern ranges largely dry. Heavier, more persistent rain spreads east from midday, clearing by early evening, then blustery showers, turning to snow above 700m.

Maximum wind: West or Southwest 40 gusting 55-60 mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10-20% in the morning, cloud frequent, often extensive above 600m, a few fleeting breaks likely. Falling to nil by mid-afternoon, extensive cloud above 500m. 50-60% in the evening as cloud breaks up.

Visibility: Mostly good at low levels, but falling to a few km in heavier outbreaks of rain. Generally very poor at height.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 1 Celsius rising to plus 6 Celsius by the afternoon.
At 800m: Minus 3 Celsius rising to plus 1 Celsius in the morning, plus 3 Celsius early evening.
Freezing level: 400m, rising to 1000m in the early hours, then above the summits in the afternoon. Lowering to 800m late evening.

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